

DETAILED LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A guide for use in medical procedures, comprising:
a stem portion extending substantially along a longitudinal axis
between having a proximal end and a distal end, and having a cross-sectional shape
having a recess therein along its length; and
first and second extension portions extending outwardly from opposites
sides of the distal end of the stem portion, each of said first and second extension
portions further comprising a stationary portion that is fixedly coupled to the stem
portion and a movable portion that is movably coupled to the stationary portion along
a line that is substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the stem, the
movable portions being movable relative to the respective stationary portions about
said substantially perpendicular line between a first position wherein the stem
portions extends beyond the extension portions by a first distance and a second
position wherein the stem portion extends beyond the extension portions by a
second distance that is greater than the first distance.
2. (Original) The guide according to claim 1, wherein when the extension portions
are in the first position the length of the stem portion that extends beyond the extension
portions is approximately 55-65 mm, and wherein when the extension portions are in
the second position the length of the stem portion that extends beyond the extension
portions is approximately 65-75 mm.
3. (Original) The guide according to claim 1, wherein the cross-section of the stem
portion is substantially C-shaped.
4. (Original) The guide according to claim 1, wherein the extension portion further
comprises a plurality of gripping elements.
5. (Original) The guide according to claim 1, wherein for each extension portion,
the movable portion is bendably coupled to the stationary portion.

6. (Original) The guide according to claim 1, wherein for each extension portion, the movable portion is pivotably coupled to the stationary portion.

7. (Original) The guide according to claim 1, wherein the first and second extension portions extend outwardly from opposite sides of the stem portion to form an angle therebetween of approximately 135 to 180 degrees.

8. (Original) The guide according to claim 1, wherein the first and second extension portions extend outwardly from opposite sides of the stem portion to form an angle therebetween of approximately 45 to 135 degrees.

9. (Currently Amended) A guide for use in a medical procedure to treat female urinary incontinence, said medical procedure involving the use of one or more surgical needles coupled to a tape to be implanted as support for the patient's urethra, the guide comprising:

a stem portion extending substantially along a longitudinal axis between having a proximal end and a distal end and having a cross-section having a recess therein along its longitudinal axis its length, the recess being shaped to receive therein said one or more surgical needles; and

first and second extension portions extending outwardly from opposite sides of the distal end of the stem portion, each of said first and second extension portions further comprising a stationary portion that is fixedly coupled to the stem portion and a movable portion that is movably coupled to the stationary portion along a line that is substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the stem, the movable portions being movable relative to the respective stationary portions about said substantially perpendicular line.

10. (Original) The guide according to claim 9, wherein each of said first and second extension portions further comprise a stationary portion that is fixed relative to the stem portion and a movable portion that is movable relative to the stem portion between a first position wherein the stem portion extends beyond the extension portions by a first

distance, and a second position wherein the stem portion extends beyond the extension portions by a second distance that is greater than the first distance.

11. (Original) The guide according to claim 9, wherein the stationary portion is fixedly coupled to the stem portion and the movable portion is movably coupled to the stationary portion.

12. (Original) The guide according to claim 10, wherein in the first position the movable portion extends from the stationary portion in substantially the same plane.

13. (Original) The guide according to claim 12, wherein in the second position the movable portion extends from the stationary portion at an angle.

14. (Original) The guide according to claim 12, wherein in the second position the movable portion is substantially adjacent to the stationary portion.

15. (Original) The guide according to claim 10, wherein the first distance is approximately 55-65 mm and the second distance is approximately 65-75 mm.

16. (Original) The guide according to claim 9, wherein the first and second extension portions extend outwardly from opposite sides of the stem portion to form an angle therebetween of approximately 135 to 180 degrees.

17. (Original) The guide according to claim 9, wherein the first and second extension portions extend outwardly from opposite sides of the stem portion to form an angle of approximately 45 to 135 degrees.

Claims 18-20 (Canceled)

s/n 10/699,045